

Mokelumne River Commercial Boating Feasibility Study

Environmental Assessment



Background

- In 2000 FERC License 137 is issued, establishing required recreation stream flows
- 2002 East Bay Municipal Utility District completes the Middle Bar Take-out
- 2011 BLM completes construction of the Big Bar project
- December of 2011 BLM, EBMUD and PG&E sign a MOU to study commercial boating on the Mokelumne River
- 2012 BLM prepares NEPA document for commercial boating

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

License #137

“The Licensee shall provide streamflows of at least 700cfs between 10am and 4pm at the Electra run whitewater boating put-in an average of three out of every four weekend days between May 1 and June 15 and an average of two out of every four weekend days between June 16 and July 31”

Middle Bar take-out



Big Bar take-out



The Study

- Three boating seasons
- Issue no more than 5 permits
- Three permits issued first season
- Five permits will be issued the following 2 seasons
- Permit holders must have insurance
- No busses will be allowed



Evaluation Criteria

- Impacts to water quality
- Impacts to other natural resources and cultural resources
- Impacts to public safety
- Impacts to other users
- Impacts to traffic and parking



Project Design Features

- Avoid intentional direct body contact in Pardee Reservoir
- No more than two put-ins per day per company (240 people max, 2 trips of 24 per company per day)
- Boats and vehicles must be clearly marked
- Kayak instruction: minimum of one to five client to instructor ratio
- No collecting artifacts or disturbing cultural resources
- Additional stipulations and conditions can be added to permits when necessary
- Establish three water quality sampling sites

The Environmental Assessment

- NEPA Document, required for all federal actions
- Assesses potential impacts to environment
- Requires a public comment period (min. 30 days)
- BLM has extended the comment period to accommodate a public meeting, that's why we're here



Internet resources

www.blm.gov/ca/motherlode

Go to “**Quick Picks**” on the front page

Look for: **NEPA Documents**

Look for: **EA-180-12-51**

“Mokelumne River Study- SRUP”



How to comment

- By E-mail: jhorn@blm.gov
- By mail: BLM
Mother Lode Field Office
5152 Hillsdale Circle
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
- We are looking for substantive comments; how can we make it better.

Questions ?

